UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/46/216
S/22670
5 June 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-sixth session
Item 35 of the preliminary list*
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 4 June 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, and pursuant to our previous letters concerning Israel's continuing acts of aggression against Lebanon, the latest of which was submitted yesterday (document S/22666), I hereby inform you that Israel has once again launched a large-scale attack, less than 24 hours after its most recent assault.

Beginning at 0915 hours (local time) today, 4 June 1991, eight Israeli F-16 military aircraft conducted a two-hour raid on the villages of Bgosta, Kfarfalous and Majdelyoun, east of the city of Sidon. The heavy bombs which they dropped killed seven and injured 38 others, mostly civilians, including 12 schoolchildren between 4 and 5 years of age. The raid also caused widespread destruction of buildings and property in the region and was accompanied by intensive activity on the part of Israeli military troops and armour in the area of Kfarhoune, overlooking Sidon.

This fresh Israeli escalation follows a large-scale concentration of Israeli forces in southern Lebanon over the past two weeks and repeated daily attacks on villages adjacent to the Israeli-occupied area known as the "security zone". It confirms Israel's persistent policy of disturbing the security and political situation in Lebanon by any means at its disposal, with a view to preventing the implementation of Security Council resolution 425 (1978).

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* A/46/50.

The Lebanese Government, which, having moved to collect weapons from the militias and made preparations for a broad deployment of the army in the south, is working to restore normality after the protracted tragedy undergone by the Lebanese people, has frequently warned of Israel's destructive intentions in Lebanon and the region. It has repeatedly urged that the Security Council, and particularly its permanent members, adopt a responsible position by putting an end to Israel's arrogance and flagrant contempt for international conventions and laws. It retains its right to call for a meeting of the Security Council to consider the dangerous situation arising from Israel's continued acts of aggression in southern Lebanon.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 35 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Khalil MAKKAWI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative